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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2013-77

Sethoxydim

(publié aussi en français)

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of new uses on borage and crops in the Bushberry Subgroup (Crop Subgroup 13-07B) to the product label of POAST® ULTRA Liquid Emulsifiable Herbicide, containing technical grade sethoxydim, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of POAST® ULTRA Liquid Emulsifiable Herbicide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 24835.

The evaluation of this sethoxydim application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value, and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable. Details regarding the registrations can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Reports available in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website, under Public Registry, Pesticide Product Information Database.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for sethoxydim is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRLs, to replace or be added to the MRLs already established for sethoxydim, are as follows.

[1] The relevant reports can be accessed by selecting Applications/Minor Use/Historical and requesting the Evaluation Report found under Application Numbers 2009-0475 and 2010-0324.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Sethoxydim

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Sethoxydim	(±)-2-[1-(ethoxyimino)butyl]-5-[2-(ethylthio)propyl]-3-hydroxy-2-cyclohexen-1-one, including metabolites containing the cyclohexen-2-one moiety, expressed as sethoxydim	25	Rapeseeds (canola)
		4.0	Bushberry Subgroup (Crop Subgroup 13-07B)[a]
		2.5	Borage seeds

ppm = parts per million

[a] The previously established MRL of 4.0 ppm for "blueberries" will be replaced by an MRL of 4.0 ppm for *highbush blueberries* and *lowbush blueberries* to reflect recent changes in crop grouping terminology (DIR2009-01).

MRLs are proposed for each commodity included in the listed crop groupings in accordance with the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for pesticide(s) or for food commodity(ies).

International Situation and Trade Implications

MRLs may vary from one country to another for a number of reasons, including differences in pesticide use patterns and the locations of the field crop trials used to generate residue chemistry data.

Table 2 compares the MRLs proposed for sethoxydim in Canada with corresponding American tolerances and Codex MRLs.[2] American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. A listing of established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website, by pesticide or commodity.

[2] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs (where different)

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Rapeseeds (canola)	25	35 (Canola, seed; Rapeseed, seed)	Not established
Borage seeds	2.5	6.0	

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for sethoxydim up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRLs will be legally in effect as of the date that they are entered into the Maximum Residue Limit Database.